

### REMARKS

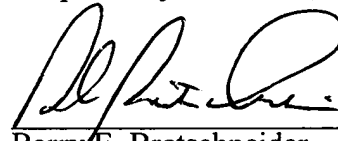
Applicants have amended the specification by inserting headings as appropriate, by removing references to the claims and by revising the abstract to a form more conventional in this country. Applicants have also amended the claims to remove reference numerals and terminology not customary in this country and to improve the claim language. Applicants have canceled method claims 8 and 19 and rewritten them as new claims 21 and 22, respectively, in order to present them in a more positively claimed format. No new matter has been added, nor has the claim scope been narrowed by these amendments.

Early action allowing the claims pending in this application is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 246472003920.

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Respectfully submitted,



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